

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A catalyst containing at least one group VIII element and at least molybdenum and/or tungsten, said elements being present at least in part in the catalyst in the dry state in the form of at least one heteropolyanion having a ~~with~~ structural formula $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(3-2x)},tH_2O$ (I) $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(3-2x)}tH_2O$ (I); $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(4-2x)},tH_2O$ (I') $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(4-2x)}tH_2O$ (I'); $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(6-2x)},tH_2O$ $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(6-2x)},tH_2O$ (I''); $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(8-2x)},tH_2O$ (I'''); $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(7-2x)},tH_2O$ (I'''); or $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(7-2x)},tH_2O$ (I'''); wherein M is cobalt, nickel, iron, copper, zinc, or mixtures thereof, A is an ~~one~~ element from group VIII of the periodic table for formulae I and I' or one or elements from group VIII of the periodic table for formulae I'', I''' and I''''; B is molybdenum and/or tungsten and C is an H^+ ion and/or a $(NR_1R_2R_3R_4)^+$ type ammonium ion, in which R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄, which may be identical or different, correspond either to a hydrogen atom or to an alkyl group, cesium, potassium, sodium or mixtures thereof, t is a number between 0 and 15 and x is 0 to 3/2 in (I), 0 to 2 in (I'), 0 to 3 in (I''), 0 to 4 in (I''') and 0 to 7/2 in (I'''')) and wherein the number of bonds connecting the group VIII element or elements with the molybdenum and/or tungsten having a length of 3.6 angstroms or less is greater than 2.
2. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein more than 2 bonds connecting the group VIII element or elements with the molybdenum and/or tungsten have a length of 3.5 angstroms or less in the catalyst in the dry state.
3. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein element A is selected from the group consisting of nickel, cobalt and iron.
4. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1 comprising, in the dry state,

0.01% to 100% by weight with respect to the total catalyst weight of at least one heteropolyanion with a structural formula selected from the group consisting of formulae I, I', I'', I''' and I''''.

5. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, comprising at least one porous mineral matrix.
6. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 5, further comprising a zeolitic molecular sieve.
7. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 5 comprising, in the dry state, as a % by weight with respect to the total catalyst weight, 1% to 99.9% of at least one porous mineral matrix, 0.1% to 99% by weight of at least one heteropolyanion having a structural formula selected from the group consisting of formulae I, I', I'', I''' and I''' and 0 to 80% by weight of at least one zeolitic molecular sieve.
8. (Currently Amended) A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein the heteropolyanion has a structural formula selected from the group consisting of Co₃Co₂Mo₁₀O₃₈H₄Ce₂Mo₁₀O₃₈H₄Ce₃, Ni_{3/2}CoMo₆O₂₄H₆CeMo₆O₂₄H₆Ni_{3/2}, Co₂CoMo₆O₂₄H₆CeMo₆O₂₄H₆Ce₂, Ni₃Co₂Mo₁₀O₃₈H₄Ce₂Mo₁₀O₃₈H₄Ni₃, Co₄Ni₂Mo₁₀O₃₈H₄Ni₂Mo₁₀O₃₈H₄Ce₄, Co₂NiMo₆O₂₄H₆NiMo₆O₂₄H₆Ce₂, Ni₂CoMo₆O₂₄H₆CeMo₆O₂₄H₆Ni₂, Co_{3/2}CoMo₆O₂₄H₆CeMo₆O₂₄H₆Ce_{3/2}, and Ni₂NiMo₆O₂₄H₆NiMo₆O₂₄H₆Ni₂.
9. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 1, which has undergone a sulphurization treatment.
10. (Currently Amended) In a catalytic process processes comprising hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting a hydrocarbon feed, said process comprising subjecting said feed to hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting conditions in the presence of a catalyst feeds, the

improvement wherein the catalyst is one according to claim 1.

11. (Original) A process according to claim 10 comprising conducting hydrogenation, hydrodenitrogenation, hydrodeoxygenation, hydrodearomatization, hydrodesulphurization, hydrodemetalization, hydroisomerization, hydrodealkylation or dehydrogenation reactions.
12. (Currently Amended) In a catalytic process comprising conducting hydrocracking of a hydrocarbon feed, said process comprising subjecting said feed to hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting conditions in the presence of a catalyst feeds, the improvement wherein the catalyst is according to claim 1.
13. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 10, in which said hydrocarbon feed contains ~~feeds contain~~ at least one heteroatom.
14. (Previously Presented) A catalyst according to claim 8, wherein the heteropolyanion is $\text{Co}_2\text{Mo}_{10}\text{O}_{38}\text{H}_4\text{Co}_3$, $\text{CoMo}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{H}_6\text{Ni}_{32}$, or $\text{NiMo}_6\text{O}_{24}\text{H}_6\text{Ni}_2$.